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(HANSARD)**

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**FIFTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT**

**FIRST SESSION**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**12, 13 and 14 September 2006**

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**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.  
 Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Assembly.  
 Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.  
 The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

**Tuesday, 12 September 2006**

**Financial services: minister's private office**

**1017(s).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Refer to Question Number 1017(ae).

**Innovation: minister's private office**

**1017(y).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Innovation — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development did not purchase any furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods for my office in 2004–05.

**Manufacturing and export: minister's private office**

**1017(z).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Refer to Question Number 1017(ae).

**Small business: minister's private office**

**1017(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The following items were purchased for my office (covering my portfolios of Manufacturing and Export, Financial Services and Small Business) in 2004–05:

Mobile draw pedestal	180.00
Overhead storage hutch	660.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>840.00</b>

**State and regional development: minister’s private office**

**1017(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister’s private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development did not purchase any furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods for my office in 2004–05.

**Commonwealth Games: Commonwealth Games expenditure**

**1018(a).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Commonwealth Games — has the Government been able to restrict their expenditure on the Commonwealth Games to the announced cap of \$697 million; if not, what additional funding was provided by the Government above this cap.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that a report on the Government’s contribution towards the Commonwealth Games will be published as soon as the accounts are finalised which will be before the end of October 2006.

**Sport and recreation: Commonwealth Games expenditure**

**1018(b).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Sport and Recreation — has the Government been able to restrict their expenditure on the Commonwealth Games to the announced cap of \$697 million; if not, what additional funding was provided by the Government above this cap.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that a report on the Government’s contribution towards the Commonwealth Games will be published as soon as the accounts are finalised which will be before the end of October 2006.

**Financial services: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(s).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the M2006 Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. The entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Innovation: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the M2006 Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. The entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Manufacturing and export: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(z).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the M2006 Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. The entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Small business: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(ae).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Small Business — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the M2006 Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. The entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**State and regional development: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(af).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the M2006 Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. The entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.



**Environment: charter flights**

**1020(n).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Environment — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government is committed to governing for all Victorians and ensures that there are regular visits undertaken to regional Victoria.

Travel costs are only incurred as and when the Minister is required to attend functions in regional areas. The use of light planes is sometimes required. Costs are closely monitored to ensure that the mode of transport used is the most efficient and effective.

**Financial services: charter flights**

**1020(s).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No chartered flights were used by me between 25 January 2005 (the date I became Minister for this portfolio) and 30 June 2005.

**Manufacturing and export: charter flights**

**1020(z).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No chartered flights were used by me between 25 January 2005 (the date I became Minister for this portfolio) and 30 June 2005.

**Small business: charter flights**

**1020(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No chartered flights were used by me between 25 January 2005 (the date I became Minister for this portfolio) and 30 June 2005.

**Water: charter flights**

**1020(ao).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The answer to this question is provided in the response to Question No. 1020(n).

**Corrections: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(j).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Corrections — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.

- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable burden on the Department's resources to answer the question as currently required. However, please specify the agencies and/or authorities for which you would like the details listed.

**State and regional development: international travel**

**1022(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Environment: interstate travel**

**1023(n).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Victoria is leading Australia in the areas of climate change, water use and waste reduction. The Victorian Government works constructively with other states and the Commonwealth in further progressing these issues and Ministers undertake interstate travel as required.

Costs are part of overall Ministerial expenditure.

**Financial services: interstate travel**

**1023(s).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Innovation: interstate travel**

**1023(y).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Innovation — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Commonwealth Games: entertainment expenses**

**1025(p).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Commonwealth Games — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised as follows:

The cost of catering, including food and beverages in 2005 in both my Ministerial capacities as Minister for Commonwealth Games and Minister for Sport and Recreation was \$1,741 in total.

The Department for Victorian Communities and its agencies have not purchased any alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**Sport and recreation: entertainment expenses**

**1025(r).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Sport and Recreation — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised as follows:

Please refer to the response to Question 1025(p).

**Innovation: ministerial staff**

**1026(y).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Innovation — with reference to the total cost and engagement of ministerial staff —

- (1) How many ministerial staff were employed by the Minister as at 1 March 2006.
- (2) What was the total cost associated with the engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) How many public servants were on secondment to the Minister's private office as at 1 March 2006 and were not counted within the ministerial staffing budget.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Refer to question number 1026(af).

**State and regional development: ministerial staff**

**1026(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to the total cost and engagement of ministerial staff —

- (1) How many ministerial staff were employed by the Minister as at 1 March 2006.
- (2) What was the total cost associated with the engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) How many public servants were on secondment to the Minister's private office as at 1 March 2006 and were not counted within the ministerial staffing budget.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

(1 & 2)

These questions do not fall within my portfolio responsibilities as the engagement of ministerial staff, including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover falls within the budget of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

- (3) In my capacity as Minister for State and Regional Development and Minister for Innovation, one full time and one part time public servant from the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development were seconded to my office at 1 March 2006.

**Aboriginal affairs: credit cards**

**1027(o).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.

- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

No Government issued credit cards are held by me or my staff.

**Financial services: credit cards**

**1027(s).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Financial Services — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Ministers and their staff are not eligible to be card holders, as stipulated in the Purchasing Card Rules for Use and Administration Guidelines, issued by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**Innovation: credit cards**

**1027(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Ministers and their staff are not eligible to be card holders, as stipulated in the Purchasing Card Rules for Use and Administration Guidelines, issued by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**Manufacturing and export: credit cards**

**1027(z).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Ministers and their staff are not eligible to be card holders, as stipulated in the Purchasing Card Rules for Use and Administration Guidelines, issued by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**Small business: credit cards**

**1027(ae).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Small Business — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Ministers and their staff are not eligible to be card holders, as stipulated in the Purchasing Card Rules for Use and Administration Guidelines, issued by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**State and regional development: credit cards**

**1027(af).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.

- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Ministers and their staff are not eligible to be card holders, as stipulated in the Purchasing Card Rules for Use and Administration Guidelines, issued by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**Victorian communities: credit cards**

**1027(an).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Victorian Communities — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

No Government issued credit cards are held by me or my staff.

**Corrections: training expenditure**

**1028(j).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Corrections — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
  - (a) the locality;
  - (b) the venue;
  - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
  - (a) accommodation;
  - (b) entertainment;
  - (c) meals and refreshments;
  - (d) travel;
  - (e) taxis and hire cars;
  - (f) other expenses.



- (3) Was the event was externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's time and resources to provide an answer to this question.

**Gaming: training expenditure**

**1028(t).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Gaming — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
- (a) the locality;
  - (b) the venue;
  - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
- (a) accommodation;
  - (b) entertainment;
  - (c) meals and refreshments;
  - (d) travel;
  - (e) taxis and hire cars;
  - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event was externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's time and resources to provide an answer to this question.

**Police and emergency services: training expenditure**

**1028(ac).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
- (a) the locality;
  - (b) the venue;
  - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
- (a) accommodation;

- (b) entertainment;
- (c) meals and refreshments;
- (d) travel;
- (e) taxis and hire cars;
- (f) other expenses.

(3) Was the event was externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's time and resources to provide an answer to this question.

**Racing: training expenditure**

**1028(ad).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Racing — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
  - (a) the locality;
  - (b) the venue;
  - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
  - (a) accommodation;
  - (b) entertainment;
  - (c) meals and refreshments;
  - (d) travel;
  - (e) taxis and hire cars;
  - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event was externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's time and resources to provide an answer to this question.

**State and regional development: training expenditure**

**1028(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —

- (a) the locality;
  - (b) the venue;
  - (c) the purpose;
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
- (a) accommodation;
  - (b) entertainment;
  - (c) meals and refreshments;
  - (d) travel;
  - (e) taxis and hire cars;
  - (f) other expenses.
- (3) Was the event was externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Financial services: departmental publications**

**1029(s).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Financial Services — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of major publications are included in each organisation's annual report of operations and are publicly available in accordance with the Minister for Finance's Financial Reporting Direction 22A issued under the Financial Management Act of 1994.

**Innovation: departmental publications**

**1029(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.

- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

Details of major publications are included in each organisation's annual report of operations and are publicly available in accordance with the Minister for Finance's Financial Reporting Direction 22A issued under the Financial Management Act of 1994.

**Manufacturing and export: departmental publications**

**1029(z).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of major publications are included in each organisation's annual report of operations and are publicly available in accordance with the Minister for Finance's Financial Reporting Direction 22A issued under the Financial Management Act of 1994.

**State and regional development: stress leave**

**1035(af).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences.
- (3) What are the details of each case.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The personal medical records of staff are in-confidence between that staff member and their doctor, and therefore I have no intention of relaying details of staff members' personal circumstances.

**Tourism: stress leave**

**1035(ag).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Tourism — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences.
- (3) What are the details of each case.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

It would be an unreasonable burden on the Department's time and resources to answer the question in its current form. Please specify a time frame for questions 1 and 2. In respect of question 3, the personal medical records of staff are in-confidence between that staff member and their doctor, and therefore I have no intention of relaying details of staff members' personal circumstances.

**Innovation: workers compensation costs**

**1037(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There were no employees in the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development under the Minister for Innovation's jurisdiction, who were on workers compensation as at 28 March 2006.

**State and regional development: workers compensation costs**

**1037(af).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister's jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There were no employees in the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development under the Minister for State and Regional Development's jurisdiction, who were on workers compensation as at 28 March 2006.

**Tourism: workers compensation costs**

**1037(ag).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Tourism — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There were no employees in the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development under the Minister for Tourism’s jurisdiction, who were on workers compensation as at 28 March 2006.

**Premier: Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(a).** Ms ASHER to ask the Premier — with reference to government payments made to Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister’s department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister’s administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Since 1 January 2005 to the date the question was asked there has been one payment made to Shannon’s Way, by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The payment was made on 31 January 2006 for the ‘Go for your life’ project at a cost of \$10,000.

**Financial services: Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(s).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Financial Services — with reference to government payments made to Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister’s department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister’s administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon’s Way within this period.

**Innovation: Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(y).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Innovation — with reference to government payments made to Shannon’s Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister’s department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister’s administration.

- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way within this period.

**Manufacturing and export: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(z).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way within this period.

**Environment: Wimmera Catchment Management Authority**

**1072.** Mr SAVAGE to ask the Minister for Environment — what were the individual report costs to for the following reports —

- (1) Regional Floodplain Strategy, Final Report, Sinclair Knight Merz, dated 26 August 1999.
- (2) Rural Drainage Strategy, Final Report, Sinclair Knight Merz, dated 8 December 1999.
- (3) Regional Waterway Management Strategy, Final Report, Sinclair Knight Mertz, dated 9 December 1999.
- (4) Assessment of the Impact of Priority Structures on National Flow Regimes and Flooding in Yarriambiack Creek, Part 1, Part 2 and Summary Report, Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (SMEC), dated December 2001.
- (5) Wimmera River (Glenorchy to Horsham) Flood Scoping Study, Water Technology, dated February 2003.
- (6) Wimmera Waterway Health Strategy 2005, WCMA.
- (7) Stressed Rivers Project — Environmental Flow Study (Wimmera River System), Sinclair Knight Mertz, dated January 2002.
- (8) Improving the Passage of Environmental Flow at Huddlestons Weir — Scoping Study, Sinclair Knight Mertz, dated February 2005.
- (9) Yarriambiack Creek Management Plan, Kellogg Brown & Root Pty Ltd, dated 2004.
- (10) Yarriambiack Creek Flood Investigation Study, WBM Oceanics Australia, dated 10 March 2004.
- (11) Structures on Yarriambiack Creek, WCMA, dated 2001.
- (12) Floodplain Management Strategy, WCMA, undated.
- (13) Wimmera Regional Catchment Strategy Future Directions, Draft Report, Sinclair Knight Mertz, dated 20 June 2002.
- (14) Regional Catchment Strategy Draft, WCMA, dated 2003.

- (15) Environmental Water Needs of the Wimmera Terminal Lakes — Final Report, Ecological Associates Pty Ltd, dated November 2004.
- (16) Wimmera Regional Salinity Action Plan, Draft, WCMA, dated August 2003.
- (17) Wimmera Mallee Pipeline Environmental Flow Benefits, Wimmera River System (including Yarriambiack Creek), Ecology Australia, dated December 2003.
- (18) Assessment of Environmental Flow Requirements for WCMA, Glenelg Hopkins, North Central and Mallee Catchment Management Authorities, Final Report, Sinclair Knight Mertz, dated 2 March 2004; Report 1 — Assessment of Environmental Flow Requirements for WCMA, Glenelg Hopkins, North Central and Mallee Catchment Management Authorities Technical Report for the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline Environmental Business Case, Final Report, Sinclair Knight Mertz, dated 3 March 2004 and Report 2 — Issued to Project Steering Committee.
- (19) Rural Drainage Strategy, WCMA, undated.
- (20) Wimmera Waterway Management Strategy, Draft, WCMA, dated May 2002.
- (21) Yarriambiack Creek Management Issues Flora, Fauna and Fisheries, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, dated 1995.
- (22) Yarriambiack Creek Management Plan, WCMA, dated April 1998.
- (23) Structures on Yarriambiack Creek, WCMA, dated 2002.
- (24) Koster and Close on Huddlestons Weir, dated 2001.
- (25) Beulah and Warracknabeal Flood Study, Water Technology, in progress June 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

This requested information is not readily available or accessible from the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority's financial systems.

The Wimmera Catchment Management Authority advise that a number of the documents in question are the products of extensive processes involving combinations of researchers, consultants, public consultation and staff time. To determine the expenditure incurred by their production would require substantial investigation and a considerable commitment of public time and resources.

Some of the requested information would need to be accessed from the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority's archival records and data from previous financial systems.

Up-to-date information on Wimmera Catchment Management Authority's expenditure is available from the authority's annual report, and I refer the member to these reports.

**Community services: disability services — Greensborough accommodation**

**1082. Mr PERTON** to ask the Minister for Community Services — with reference to developments in the case of Mr Shaun Low since the matter was first raised in the House on the adjournment debate on 20 July 2006 —

- (1) Whether the local manager of the Department of Human Services (DHS) rang Mrs Sue Low to advise that DHS staff were offended by subsequent newspaper coverage.
- (2) Whether DHS staff have —
  - (a) refused to answer calls from Mr Low's mother;
  - (b) refused to properly inform Mr Low's mother about Mr Low's welfare;
  - (c) slammed a door in Mr Low's mother's face.
- (3) Whether the Minister will advise what action the local manager of DHS will take to address the recent issues in Mr Low's case.



**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) The local manager of DHS did not ring Mrs Low. Mrs Low telephoned the local manager and asked why the staff were quiet and unresponsive when she called the residence.
- (2)
  - (a) Mrs Low recently contacted the Manager, Disability Services in the North and West Metropolitan Region about this matter. The Manager has confirmed a communication protocol to ensure the staff at Mr Low's residence answer telephone calls, providing they do not interfere with their attention to their duty of care to all residents.
  - (b) DHS staff have provided Mr Low's mother with detailed written or verbal information regarding Mr Low's welfare and activities as per the communication protocol.
  - (c) The DHS staff member asked Mr and Mrs Low to wait whilst he confirmed the protocol for family visits and he believed that he closed the door politely and did not slam the door.
- (3) DHS will continue to work with Mr Low's family to facilitate the smooth transition to his new residence scheduled to occur, with the consent of Mr and Mrs Low, on 25 August 2006.



**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.  
 Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Assembly.  
 Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.  
 The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

**Wednesday, 13 September 2006**

**Financial services: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(s).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Financial Services — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

To answer this question in the specific manner sought by the Member would require all unjustifiable diversion of Departmental resources.

**Innovation: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department’s time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Police and emergency services: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(ac).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable burden on the Department’s resources to answer the question as currently required. However, please specify the agencies and/or authorities for which you would like the details listed.

**Small business: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

To answer this question in the specific manner sought by the Member would require all unjustifiable diversion of Departmental resources.

**State and regional development: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Corrections: international travel**

**1022(j).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Corrections — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

According to the financial records of the Department of Justice, no international travel was undertaken in 2005.

**Financial services: international travel**

**1022(s).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Innovation: international travel**

**1022(y).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Innovation — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Manufacturing and export: international travel**

**1022(z).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Police and emergency services: international travel**

**1022(ac).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

According to the financial records of the Department of Justice, no international travel was undertaken in 2005.

**Small business: international travel**

**1022(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Manufacturing and export: interstate travel**

**1023(z).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Small business: interstate travel**

**1023(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**State and regional development: interstate travel**

**1023(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Water: interstate travel**

**1023(ao).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The answer to this question is provided in the response to Question No. 1023(n).

**Environment: intrastate travel**

**1024(n).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government is committed to governing for all Victorians and ensures that there are regular visits undertaken to regional Victoria.

Travel costs are only incurred as and when the Minister is required to attend functions in regional areas. The use of light planes is sometimes required. Costs are closely monitored to ensure that the mode of transport used is the most efficient and effective.

**Financial services: intrastate travel**

**1024(s).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Manufacturing and export: intrastate travel**

**1024(z).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Small business: intrastate travel**

**1024(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Government cannot justify diversion of the Department's time and resources required to gather this information and answer these questions.

**Water: intrastate travel**

**1024(ao).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The answer to this question is provided in the response to Question No. 1024(n).

**State and regional development: departmental publications**

**1029(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.



**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of major publications are included in each organisation's annual report of operations and are publicly available in accordance with the Minister for Finance's Financial Reporting Direction 22A issued under the Financial Management Act of 1994.

**Innovation: government surveys**

**1030(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister's administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
  - (a) Production costs.
  - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The broad nature of the question and given that identical questions have been asked across Government indicates that this is not a genuine inquiry but a speculative question and as such a response would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

**State and regional development: government surveys**

**1030(af).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister's administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
  - (a) Production costs.
  - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The broad nature of the question and given that identical questions have been asked across Government indicates that this is not a genuine inquiry but a speculative question and as such a response would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

**Tourism: government surveys**

**1030(ag).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Tourism — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister's administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.

- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
- (a) Production costs.
  - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The broad nature of the question and given that identical questions have been asked across Government indicates that this is not a genuine inquiry but a speculative question and as such a response would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

**Corrections: external legal advice**

- 1033(j).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Corrections — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

The total amount spent by Corrections Victoria on external legal advice for the period 2004–05 is \$720,774.40. The Adult Parole Board of Victoria has not used funds for external legal advice during the period 2004–05.

**Financial services: external legal advice**

- 1033(s).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of legal expenses incurred by Government Departments and Agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

**Innovation: external legal advice**

- 1033(y).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Innovation — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of legal expenses incurred by Government Departments and Agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

**Manufacturing and export: external legal advice**

**1033(z).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of legal expenses incurred by Government Departments and Agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

**Police and emergency services: external legal advice**

**1033(ac).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

Legal fees for the Department of Justice as a whole totalled \$4,134,277.

The legal fees for the remaining statutory agencies under my administration totalled \$5,024,764.

**Small business: external legal advice**

**1033(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of legal expenses incurred by Government Departments and Agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

**State and regional development: external legal advice**

**1033(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of legal expenses incurred by Government Departments and Agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

**Tourism: external legal advice**

**1033(ag).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Tourism — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of legal expenses incurred by Government Departments and Agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

**Innovation: stress leave**

**1035(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister’s administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences.
- (3) What are the details of each case.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The personal medical records of staff are in-confidence between that staff member and their doctor, and therefore I have no intention of relaying details of staff members’ personal circumstances.

**Corrections: workers compensation costs**

**1037(j).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Corrections — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

As at 28 March 2006 there were 16 employees under my jurisdiction who were on workers compensation, at a cost of \$338,402.

Ministerial staff are employed by the Premier.

**Environment: web site costs**

**1038(n).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Environment — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government is committed to providing up to date information to all Victorians across a broad spectrum of issues.

The details for agency web addresses are usually contained in their annual report of operations, to which I refer the member.

**Financial services: web site costs**

**1038(s).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Financial Services — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of web sites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**Innovation: web site costs**

**1038(y).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Innovation — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of web sites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**Manufacturing and export: web site costs**

**1038(z).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of web sites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**Small business: web site costs**

**1038(ae).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Small Business — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of web sites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**State and regional development: web site costs**

**1038(af).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of web sites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**Tourism: web site costs**

**1038(ag).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Tourism — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of web sites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**Water: web site costs**

**1038(ao).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The answer to this question is provided in the response to Question No. 1038(n).

**Environment: Commonwealth Games tree planting**

**1040(a).** Mr RYAN to ask the Minister for Environment — with reference to the Government’s policy to make the Commonwealth Games carbon neutral —

- (1) As at 15 March 2006, how many trees have been planted in Victoria as a direct consequence of the policy.
- (2) In what locations have trees been planted as a direct consequence of the policy and how many trees have been planted at each of these sites.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Over 1.04 million plants were established as part of the Commonwealth Games Environment program. This included:

- 856,800 plants growing at the following ‘carbon neutral’ sites:

Location	Number of plants growing (at site audit)
Wonthaggi	373,070
Hamilton	5,786
Geelong (Ripley, Ceres and Inverleigh)	37,451
Bear’s Lagoon (Serpentine)	5,432
Baynton–Sidonia (Kyneton)	15,000
Swifts Creek	*0
Lake Mokoan	5,000
Heartlands, (Violet Town)	107,908
Lake Narracan (Morwell)	31,880
Darebin Creek	1,300
Gippsland Plains Rail Trail, (Maffra)	105,550
Casterton, (Karak Habitat)	8,800
Grow West, (Rowsley Valley)	55,539
Ballan	22,500
Amiets Track (Otways)	81,600

\* Swifts Creek site was subject to drought conditions and locust damage. The situation at this site will be reviewed at the end of Spring 2006 and the site will be resown if necessary.

As at 15 March 2006 all carbon neutral sites had either been planted with tubestock or by direct seeding, or both. The total number of tubestock seedlings planted on these sites was 214,000 and the total number of seeds sown was estimated at over 10 million seeds.

- 184,000 plants at the Games Village Wetlands, the mountain bike course at Lysterfield Park and the Yarra River revegetation and restoration projects.

**Aboriginal affairs: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(o).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The answer is nil.

**Planning: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(ab).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Planning — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

No payments were made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd by my private office or the Department of Sustainability and Environment for activities falling under my portfolio responsibilities as Minister for Planning.

**Small business: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(ae).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Small Business — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way within this period.

**State and regional development: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(af).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for State and Regional Development — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —



- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way within this period.

**Tourism: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(ag).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Tourism — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way within this period.



**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

*Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown.  
 Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Assembly.  
 Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers.  
 The portfolio of the minister answering the question on notice starts each heading.*

**Thursday, 14 September 2006**

**Transport: V/Line — V/locity railcars**

**916.** Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Transport — with reference to each V'locity railcar two-car set, for Monday 17 October 2005 —

- (1) What was the location of each set, by fleet number, at 11:59 pm.
- (2) How many kilometres had each set operated on that day.
- (3) Between which locations did each set travel.
- (4) For each set, were any trips made for —
  - (a) driver training;
  - (b) railcar testing;
  - (c) placement between depots;
  - (d) other purposes.
- (5) If a set did not operate on that day, on what date did it last travel on a main line track and to where.

**ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

(1) On Monday, 17 October at 11.59 p.m. there had been 11 V/Locity rail two-car sets delivered to the State. The location of each V/Locity rail two-car set as at that time was:

VL02	Newport Workshop
VL03	Bendigo
VL04	Bendigo
VL05	Bombardier/Dandenong
VL06	Newport Workshop
VL08	Spencer Street
VL09	Newport Workshop
VL10	Newport Workshop
VL11	Newport Workshop
VL12	Newport Workshop
VL13	Ballarat

- (2) Nil.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Not applicable.
- (5) If a set did not operate on that day, on what date did it last travel on a main line track and to where?

VL02	23/07/05	Newport
VL03	28/09/05	Bendigo
VL04	28/09/05	Bendigo
VL05	29/09/05	Geelong
VL06	23/07/05	Newport
VL08	30/08/05	Newport
VL09	23/07/05	Newport
VL10	08/08/05	Newport
VL11	23/07/05	Newport
VL12	23/07/05	Newport
VL13	22/09/05	Geelong

**Employment and youth affairs: departmental consultancies**

**961(a).** Mr KOTSIRAS to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs —

With reference to the Department and each agency and authority within the Minister’s administration — what are the details of each consultancy commissioned since 1 January 2005, indicating —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Cost.
- (3) Purpose.
- (4) Name and address of consultant.
- (5) Recommendations made.
- (6) Action taken in response to any recommendations.
- (7) Whether tenders were called.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that the following consultancies were commissioned between 1 January 2005 and 31 December 2005:

**1. Roberts Evaluation Pty Ltd**

**Date:** March–May 2005

**Cost:** \$59,576

**Purpose:** To undertake a review of the *CRISP–Communities* program.

**Name and address of consultant:** Roberts Evaluation Pty Ltd, Suite 311, 343 Lt. Collins Street, Melbourne 3000.

**Recommendations made:** The review made a number of recommendations aimed at improving the program.

**Action taken:** The findings of the review informed development of *Workforce Participation Partnerships* (WPP).

**Tenders Called:** A ‘Request for Quotation’ was issued, as required by the Victorian Government Purchasing Board for projects of value between \$15,000 and \$100,000.

**2. Equity Research Centre Inc**

**Date:** March–April 2005

**Cost:** \$39,160

**Purpose:** To undertake a review of the *Jobs for Young People* program.

**Name and address of consultant:** Equity Research Centre, 60 Cambridge Street, Collingwood, 3066.

**Recommendations made:** The review made a number of recommendations aimed at strengthening the program.

**Action taken:** The findings of the review informed the development of *Workforce Participation Partnerships* (WPP).

**Tenders Called:** A 'Request for Quotation' was issued, as required by the Victorian Government Purchasing Board for projects of value between \$15,000 and \$100,000.

### Employment and youth affairs: departmental advertising

**962(a).** Mr KOTSIRAS to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs —

With reference to the Department and each agency and authority within the Minister's administration — what are the details of all advertising campaigns indicating the purpose and total costs of each campaign since 1 January 2005.

#### ANSWER:

I am informed that the following advertising campaigns were undertaken in agencies within the Employment and Youth Affairs portfolios between 1 January 2005 and the date of this question (7 February 2006):

#### EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

##### Grants Advertising

##### *Jobs for Victoria*

**Purpose:** To advise potential service providers of the availability of and eligibility conditions for Employment Programs grants — e.g., Jobs for Young People (JYP), Youth Employment Scheme (YES) and Community Jobs Program (CJP).

Such grants programs have achieved more than 13,700 outcomes since their creation, benefiting both Victorian job seekers looking for work and Victorian employers looking for staff. The Victorian Government is assisting local job seekers in light of Job Network gaps, Federal industrial relations reform that is hurting workers and 'welfare to work' changes that are forcing vulnerable people into the work force.

**Total Cost:** \$110,155.75

##### Program Promotion

##### **Skilled Migration**

**Purpose:** Promotion of Victoria as a preferred destination for skilled and business migrants, and promotion of *LiveInVictoria* web site, which provides information for prospective migrants.

Victoria now attracts more than 26 per cent of skilled migrants to Australia, compared to around 19 per cent in 1999. In 2005–06 Victoria sponsored 1125 business migrants who are expected to create 2900 jobs and generate more than \$557 million in investment.

The *LiveInVictoria* web site averages around 60,000 unique visitors every month.

**Total Cost:** \$712,049.05

***Youthcentral***

**Purpose:** To publicise the *Youthcentral* web site, which provides information on careers, employment, education and training for young people.

Since January 2005 there have been more than 295,000 visits to this popular site, which includes information about health, jobs, study options, activities across Victoria, managing money, housing and much more.

**Total Cost:** \$96,660.50

**OFFICE FOR YOUTH**

**Grants Advertising**

**Purpose:** To advise potential service providers of the availability of and eligibility conditions for youth grants, including *Advance* and *FReeZA*.

Ninety per cent of Victorian government secondary schools are now participating in *Advance*, which allows students to volunteer in their communities. The popular *FReeZA* program now runs in more than 90 per cent of Victoria's local government areas.

**Total Cost:** \$13,223.94

**Program Promotion**

**Purpose:** To promote youth events and activities as part of *National Youth Week*.

National Youth Week is supported by the Victorian Government, VicHealth and the Federal Government to celebrate the contribution young people make to their communities and provide an opportunity for young people to have their voices heard. Nearly 15,000 young Victorians participated in funded activities last National Youth Week.

**Total Cost:** \$21,970.33

**Transport: V/Line — train services**

**969. Mr MULDER** to ask the Minister for Transport — with reference to train services scheduled to depart North Melbourne for Melton between 4.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. on 25 January 2006 —

- (1) What times were trains scheduled to depart.
- (2) What times did trains or replacement coaches actually depart for each of the scheduled services.
- (3) Did some passengers who waited at the bus stop outside North Melbourne from 4.15 p.m. take until 7.50 p.m. to reach Melton by bus.
- (4) What steps are being taken to improve communication between V/Line roving officers at bus stops and Connex station staff to ensure that both are informed of likely arrival times of delayed rail services or replacement coach services.

**ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

(1) North Melbourne timetabled departures for Melton are 4.29 p.m., 4.55 p.m., 5.28 p.m., 5.56 p.m., 6.20 p.m. and 6.57 p.m.

(2)

North Melbourne actual departures on 25 January 2006:

- 4.29 p.m. train cancelled, operated with replacement road coaches
- 4.55 p.m. train departed at 4.59 p.m.
- 5.28 p.m. train cancelled, operated with replacement road coaches
- 5.56 p.m. train cancelled, operated with replacement road coaches
- 6.20 p.m. train cancelled, operated with replacement road coaches
- 6.57 p.m. train departed at 6.57 p.m.

Individual coach departure times were not recorded as they did not conform to the normal operation.

(3)

V/Line is unable to confirm when customers arrived at Melton.

(4)

V/Line dispatches staff to assist customers in appropriate circumstances, for example when there is a significant disruption to services. In relation to the afternoon of 25 January 2006, V/Line staff were dispatched to North Melbourne Railway Station to assist customers.

In addition to this, frequent announcements kept customers informed of the alternative arrangements.

### **Transport: V/Line — train services**

**970.** Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Transport — with reference to V/Line services on 25 January 2006 —

- (1) Did a Y-class shunting locomotive derail at the entrance to Spencer Street/Southern Cross station; if so, what time did it derail.
- (2) Did any other incidents on the afternoon of 25 January 2006 delay more than one V/Line scheduled service; if so, what were these incidents.

#### **ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

- (1) Yes, at approximately 1.20 pm.
- (2) No.

### **Transport: V/Line — train incidents**

**971.** Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Transport — with reference to a Y-class shunting locomotive which reportedly derailed at the entrance to Southern Cross station on 25 January 2006 and any other incidents on that afternoon which delayed more than one V/Line scheduled service —

- (1) For scheduled V/Line arrivals at Southern Cross station affected by these incidents, what was the —
  - (a) scheduled time of departure from its originating station;
  - (b) originating station;
  - (c) scheduled time of arrival at Southern Cross station;
  - (d) actual time of arrival at Southern Cross station;
  - (e) delay in minutes.
- (2) For scheduled V/Line departures from Southern Cross station affected these incidents, what was the —

- (a) scheduled time of departure;
  - (b) actual time of departure from Southern Cross station;
  - (c) destination station;
  - (c) scheduled time of arrival at final destination station;
  - (d) actual time of arrival at final destination station;
  - (e) lateness in minutes at the destination station for each train delayed by more than five minutes.
- (3) For any services cancelled due to these incidents, what was the —
- (a) scheduled time of departure from its originating station;
  - (b) originating station;
  - (c) destination station.
- (4) Were any services replaced by road coaches due to these incidents; is so, what was the —
- (a) scheduled time of departure from its originating station;
  - (c) originating station;
  - (c) destination station.
- (5) Have these incidents been investigated; if so, by whom.
- (6) What is the cause of these incidents believed to be.
- (7) How is the chance of a repeat of these incidents being minimised.
- (8) As a result of these incidents, have any staff been —
- (a) stood down;
  - (b) disciplined;
  - (c) counselled;
  - (d) made to undergo refresher training.
- (9) What additional costs did V/Line incur as a result of these incidents.

**ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

**(1) Arrivals at Southern Cross Station**

Scheduled Departure	Originating Station	Scheduled Arrival Southern Cross	Actual Arrival at Southern Cross	Delay in minutes
3.10PM	Shepparton	5.37PM	5.45PM	8
5.13PM	Seymour	6.30PM	6.37PM	7
4.40PM	Sale	7.31PM	7.38PM	7

**(2) Departures from Southern Cross Station**

Scheduled Departure	Actual Departure	Destination	Scheduled Arrival	Actual Arrival	Delayed by more than 5 minutes
4.32PM	4.48PM	Seymour	6.02PM	6.28PM	26
5.32PM	5.36PM	Seymour	7.04PM	7.12PM	8



**(3) and (4)**

Listed below are the services that were cancelled. These services were all operated with replacement road coaches. V/Line does not record the actual time of departure of replacement road coach services.

Scheduled Departure	Originating station	Destination station
3.13PM	Southern Cross	Sunbury
4.13PM	Southern Cross	Sunbury
5.17PM	Southern Cross	Sunbury
4.28PM	Sunbury	Southern Cross
5.18PM	Sunbury	Southern Cross
6.25PM	Sunbury	Southern Cross
5.49PM	Southern Cross	Kyneton
3.35PM	Southern Cross	Bacchus Marsh
4.25PM	Southern Cross	Bacchus Marsh
5.24PM	Southern Cross	Bacchus Marsh
5.52PM	Southern Cross	Bacchus Marsh
6.17PM	Southern Cross	Bacchus Marsh

**(5)**

Yes, by Connex which is the Track Access provider.

**(6)**

The investigation by Connex concluded that the poor condition of the Working Spring Action (WSA) hand points was the cause of the incident.

**(7)**

Mainco will review its inspection and maintenance procedures of all train lines and points. The Manager of Train Crews at V/Line will ensure that shunters bring to the attention of the Senior Yard Master any irregularity of WSA hand points.

**(8)**

- (a) No
- (b) No
- (c) No
- (d) No

**(9)**

Information on costs is not available at this time, as invoices are still being processed.

**Transport: V/Line — taxi bills**

**982.** Mr MULDER to ask the Minister for Transport —

- (1) What was the highest individual bill in January 2006, between what locations the taxi travel and on what date did the journey occur for the use of a taxi to convey —
  - (a) V/Line passengers;
  - (b) V/Line train drivers;
  - (c) other V/Line staff.

- (2) How much was spent on taxis conveying V/Line train drivers in January 2006 between Kyneton and Bendigo.

**ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

**(1)**

- (a) \$338.30 Ballarat to Coleraine — 5 January 2006.
- (b) \$675.00 Melbourne to Wagga Wagga (billed to Country Link) — 5 January 2006.
- (c) \$90.00 Surrey Hills to Tullamarine — 12 January 2006.

**(2)** Nil.

**Attorney-General: minister's private office**

- 1017(f).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Attorney-General — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

According to the financial records of the Department of Justice, the answer is nil.

**Employment and youth affairs: minister's private office**

- 1017(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I have responded to this Question in my capacity as Minister for Education Services (refer to response to Question number 1017(l)).

**Health: minister's private office**

- 1017(u).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Aged care: minister's private office**

**1017(v).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Aged Care — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Housing: minister's private office**

**1017(w).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Housing — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Industrial relations: minister's private office**

**1017(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — what furniture items, including moveable furniture, fixed furniture and electrical goods were purchased for the Minister's private office in 2004–05 and what was the total cost of all such items purchased.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

According to the financial records of the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, the answer is nil.

**Employment and youth affairs: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. These entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Health: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(u).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Health — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. These entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Aged care: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(v).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Aged Care — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. These entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Housing: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(w).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Housing — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Victorian Government and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. These entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Industrial relations: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(x).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.
- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Victorian Government and the M2006 Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. The entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the government's financial report on the Games.

**Transport: Commonwealth Games entertainment expenses**

**1019(ah).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Transport — what was the total amount spent by all Government departments for invited guests and those who were hosting guests on entertainment expenses at the Commonwealth Games including —

- (1) Alcohol.
- (2) Food.
- (3) Admission to Commonwealth Games events.

- (4) Admission to other entertainment events.
- (5) Special gifts.
- (6) All transport and corporate box leasing.

**ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

The Victorian Government and the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation jointly provided hosting opportunities for Ministers and senior Departmental officers during the Commonwealth Games. These entertainment expenses form part of the whole of Games budget. The accounts are still being received and when collated will be included in the Government's financial report on the Games.

**Employment and youth affairs: charter flights**

**1020(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I have responded to this Question in my capacity as Minister for Education Services (refer to response to Question number 1020(l)).

**Housing: charter flights**

**1020(w).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Housing — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Industrial relations: charter flights**

**1020(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — what are the details of all chartered flights, including helicopters and light planes, used by the Minister in 2004–05, indicating for each flight —

- (1) Date.
- (2) Carrier.
- (3) Destination.
- (4) Cost.
- (5) Purpose.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Nil.

**Agriculture: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(b).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Agriculture — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) does not conduct media research or public opinion polling.

In regard to agencies and authorities, providing a consolidated response detailing media research and public opinion polling conducted by each individual agency and authority within my administration, would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**Health: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(u).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister’s administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Aged care: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(v).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Aged Care — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister's administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Housing: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(w).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Housing — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister's administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Industrial relations: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(x).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister's administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.



- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The broad nature of the question and given that identical questions have been asked across Government indicates that this is not a genuine inquiry but a speculative question and as such a response would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

**Manufacturing and export: media research and public opinion polls**

**1021(z).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Manufacturing and Export — with reference to each department, agency and authority under the Minister's administration — what are the details of all media research and public opinion polling conducted in 2004–05, including —

- (1) The title of each poll or item of research.
- (2) The date approved and duration of contract.
- (3) The personnel conducting the project.
- (4) Whether it was put to tender.
- (5) The recommendations made.
- (6) Any actions taken by the department or the Minister.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

To answer this question in the specific manner sought by the Member would require all unjustifiable diversion of Departmental resources.

**Employment and youth affairs: international travel**

**1022(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I have responded to this Question in my capacity as Minister for Education Services (refer to response to Question number 1022(l)).

**Commonwealth Games: international travel**

**1022(p).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Commonwealth Games — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that in total for both my Ministerial portfolio responsibilities the costs, including airfares, accommodation and expenses for international, interstate and intrastate travel, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 for myself and various members of my staff, were \$142,237.16.

The travel related to the promotion, reporting and delivery of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games and the Melbourne 2007 FINA World Championships.

**Sport and recreation: international travel**

**1022(r).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Sport and Recreation — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all international travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that in total for both my Ministerial portfolio responsibilities the costs, including airfares, accommodation and expenses for international, interstate and intrastate travel, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 for myself and various members of my staff, were \$142,237.16.

The travel related to the promotion, reporting and delivery of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games and the Melbourne 2007 FINA World Championships.

**Employment and youth affairs: interstate travel**

**1023(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I have responded to this Question in my capacity as Minister for Education Services (refer to response to Question number 1023(l)).

**Commonwealth Games: interstate travel**

**1023(p).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Commonwealth Games — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that in total for both my Ministerial portfolio responsibilities the costs, including airfares, accommodation and expenses for international, interstate and intrastate travel, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 for myself and various members of my staff, were \$142,237.16.

The travel related to the promotion, reporting and delivery of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games and the Melbourne 2007 FINA World Championships.

**Sport and recreation: interstate travel**

**1023(r).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Sport and Recreation — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that in total for both my Ministerial portfolio responsibilities the costs, including airfares, accommodation and expenses for international, interstate and intrastate travel, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 for myself and various members of my staff, were \$142,237.16.

The travel related to the promotion, reporting and delivery of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games and the Melbourne 2007 FINA World Championships.

**Industrial relations: interstate travel**

**1023(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — what was the cost, including airfares, accommodation and expenses, of all interstate travel undertaken by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, have not paid any expenses incurred in my capacity as Minister for Industrial Relations or by my ministerial staff in relation to interstate travel in 2005.

**Employment and youth affairs: intrastate travel**

**1024(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I have responded to this Question in my capacity as Minister for Education Services (refer to response to Question number 1024(l)).

**Commonwealth Games: intrastate travel**

**1024(p).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Commonwealth Games — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that in total for both my Ministerial portfolio responsibilities the costs, including airfares, accommodation and expenses for international, interstate and intrastate travel, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 for myself and various members of my staff, were \$142,237.16.

The travel related to the promotion, reporting and delivery of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games and the Melbourne 2007 FINA World Championships.

**Sport and recreation: intrastate travel**

**1024(r).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment for the Minister for Sport and Recreation — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that in total for both my Ministerial portfolio responsibilities the costs, including airfares, accommodation and expenses for international, interstate and intrastate travel, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 for myself and various members of my staff, were \$142,237.16.

The travel related to the promotion, reporting and delivery of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games and the Melbourne 2007 FINA World Championships.

**Industrial relations: intrastate travel**

**1024(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — what was the cost, including airfares, air charter, accommodation and expenses, of all intrastate travel undertaken by the Ministers and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, have not paid any expenses incurred in my capacity as Minister for Industrial Relations or by my ministerial staff in relation to intrastate travel in 2005.

**Employment and youth affairs: entertainment expenses**

**1025(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

(1) and (2)

I have responded to this Question in my capacity as Minister for Education Services (refer to response to Question 1025(l)).

(3) Nil

**Health: entertainment expenses**

**1025(u).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Aged care: entertainment expenses**

**1025(v).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Aged Care — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Housing: entertainment expenses**

**1025(w).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Health for the Minister for Housing — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

To provide details would be an unreasonable diversion of my Department's resources.

**Industrial relations: entertainment expenses**

**1025(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to the entertainment expenses incurred by Ministers and ministerial staff —

- (1) What entertainment expenses, including restaurant and catering, were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (2) What expenses were incurred by the Minister and ministerial staff for the purchase of alcohol for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) What expenses were incurred by each department and agency under the Minister's administration for the purchase of alcohol for the Minister, ministerial staff and the Minister's office in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

- (1) Nil entertainment expenses.
- (2) Any alcohol costs incurred in 2005 would be included within a general hospitality accounting code. To isolate such expenses from other hospitality expenses would involve an examination of individual invoices and would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.
- (3) Any alcohol costs incurred in 2004–05 would be included within a general hospitality accounting code. To isolate such expenses from other hospitality expenses would involve an examination of individual invoices and would place an unreasonable burden on public time and resources.

**Employment and youth affairs: ministerial staff**

**1026(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — with reference to the total cost and engagement of ministerial staff —

- (1) How many ministerial staff were employed by the Minister as at 1 March 2006.
- (2) What was the total cost associated with the engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) How many public servants were on secondment to the Minister's private office as at 1 March 2006 and were not counted within the ministerial staffing budget.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) I do not employ Ministerial staff.
- (2) Costs associated with the engagement of Ministerial staff are managed by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- (3) Nil.

**Multicultural affairs: ministerial staff**

**1026(aq).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs — with reference to the total cost and engagement of ministerial staff —

- (1) How many ministerial staff were employed by the Minister as at 1 March 2006.
- (2) What was the total cost associated with the engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.
- (3) How many public servants were on secondment to the Minister's private office as at 1 March 2006 and were not counted within the ministerial staffing budget.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

- (1) I do not employ Ministerial staff.
- (2) Costs for the engagement of Ministerial staff are managed by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.
- (3) The number of public servants on secondment to the Minister's private office at 1 March 2006 and not counted within the ministerial staffing budget was 1.

**Employment and youth affairs: credit cards**

**1027(m).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

No Government issued credit cards are held by me or my staff.

**Industrial relations: credit cards**

**1027(x).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — does the Minister and/or staff of the Minister hold one or more credit cards issued by the Government; if so, what is the total value of purchases on each such credit card since 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 and of the purchases made —

- (1) What was the date of each purchase.
- (2) What was the cost of each purchase.
- (3) Who is the credit card provider.
- (4) What was the criteria for issue.
- (5) What was the criteria for usage.
- (6) What is the spending limit.
- (7) What type of authority is required for purchase.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Ministers and their staff are not eligible to be card holders, as stipulated in the Purchasing Card Rules for Use and Administration Guidelines, issued by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**Attorney-General: training expenditure**

**1028(f).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Attorney-General — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
  - (a) the locality;
  - (b) the venue;
  - (c) the purpose;
  
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
  - (a) accommodation;
  - (b) entertainment;
  - (c) meals and refreshments;
  - (d) travel;
  - (e) taxis and hire cars;
  - (f) other expenses.
  
- (3) Was the event was externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

It would be an unreasonable diversion of the Department's time and resources to provide an answer to this question.

**Industrial relations: training expenditure**

**1028(x).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to expenditure on conferences, seminars, workshops and training courses or like events by each department, agency or authority within their administration for the period 1 January 2004 to 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What was the name of each conference, course seminar, workshop or like event attended indicating —
  - (a) the locality;
  - (b) the venue;
  - (c) the purpose;
  
- (2) What was the cost of each event including —
  - (a) accommodation;
  - (b) entertainment;
  - (c) meals and refreshments;
  - (d) travel;
  - (e) taxis and hire cars;
  - (f) other expenses.
  
- (3) Was the event was externally organised; if so, by which company and at what cost.



**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The broad nature of the question and given that identical questions have been asked across Government indicates that this is not a genuine inquiry but a speculative question and as such a response would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

**Industrial relations: departmental publications**

**1029(x).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration from 1 January 2005 to 1 March 2006 — what are the details of all publications produced indicating in each case —

- (1) The title.
- (2) The date of issue.
- (3) Details of distribution.
- (4) The numbers printed.
- (5) The cost of production.
- (6) The purpose of production.
- (7) Who it was printed by.
- (8) Whether tenders were called.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of major publications are included in each organisation's annual report of operations and are publicly available in accordance with the Minister for Finance's Financial Reporting Direction 22A issued under the Financial Management Act of 1994.

**Gaming: government surveys**

**1030(t).** **Mr HONEYWOOD** to ask the Minister for Gaming — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister's administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
  - (a) Production costs.
  - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

- (1) There were 24 surveys conducted.
- (2) (a) and (b) The cost of the surveys totalled \$1,725,003, which includes production expenses and the cost of engaging the contracted firms to conduct the surveys. Available records do not distinguish between these cost types.

**Industrial relations: government surveys**

**1030(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister’s administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
  - (a) Production costs.
  - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The broad nature of the question and given that identical questions have been asked across Government indicates that this is not a genuine inquiry but a speculative question and as such a response would require an unreasonable diversion of time and resources.

**Racing: government surveys**

**1030(ad).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Racing — with reference to all surveys commissioned and conducted by all government departments, agencies or authorities under the Minister’s administration between 1 March 2004 and 1 March 2006 —

- (1) What is the total number of surveys that have been commissioned or conducted.
- (2) What is the total cost of the surveys including —
  - (a) Production costs.
  - (b) The cost of the contracted firms conducting the surveys.

**ANSWER:**

I am advised that:

- (1) There were 20 surveys conducted.
- (2) (a) and (b) The cost of the surveys totalled \$62,000, which includes production expenses and the cost of engaging the contracted firms to conduct the surveys. Please note that available records do not distinguish between these cost types.

**Industrial relations: external legal advice**

**1033(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — what was the total amount spent on external legal advice by each department, agency or other authority under the Minister’s administration in 2004–05.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Details of legal expenses incurred by government departments and agencies are publicly available and can be found in the Government Legal Services Annual Report.

**Employment and youth affairs: leasing arrangements**

**1034(m).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The Minister for Finance is the responsible Minister for entering into lease agreements for Departmental head office accommodation.

There are no authorities under my administration.

**Multicultural affairs: leasing arrangements**

**1034(aq).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs — As at 1 March 2006 what is the total cost of leasing arrangements over the term of each contract for head office accommodation that has been entered into by all departments, agencies and authorities under the Minister's administration.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

As the Minister assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs, I am supported by the Department for Victorian Communities.

The Minister for Finance is the responsible Minister for entering into lease agreements for head office accommodation. The Victorian Government Property Group within the Department of Treasury and Finance maintains lease documentation including lease costs.

There are no authorities under my administration.

**Industrial relations: stress leave**

**1035(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to each department, agency, and authority under the Minister's administration — what is the total number of staff that have taken time off because of stress-related illnesses and of these —

- (1) What is the total number of days taken off by these staff.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of these staff absences.
- (3) What are the details of each case.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

The personal medical records of staff are in-confidence between that staff member and their doctor, and therefore I have no intention of relaying details of staff members' personal circumstances.

**Environment: workers compensation costs**

**1037(n).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Environment — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

Information regarding workplace incidents and workers compensation claims can be found in the annual report of each department, agency and authority. In addition, whole-of-government data is provided in the Victorian WorkCover Authority’s Annual Report.

**Industrial relations: workers compensation costs**

**1037(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

There were no employees of Industrial Relations Victoria or Office of Work Place Rights Advocate, or any agencies under the Minister’s administration, who were on workers compensation as at 28 March 2006.

Please note that the employment of ministerial staff does not fall within my portfolio responsibility. The engagement of ministerial staff including salaries, superannuation and WorkCover falls within the budget of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

**Water: workers compensation costs**

**1037(ao).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Water — with reference to each department, agency and authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction, including the Ministerial Office — how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent, are currently on workers compensation as a result of workplace injury and what is the estimated cost resulting from these claims.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

This question is answered in the response to Question No. 1037(n).

**Industrial relations: web site costs**

**1038(x).** Mr HONEYWOOD to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — what is the total number of web sites currently owned, operated or administered by each department, agency or authority within the Minister’s jurisdiction what has been the total cost for the design, administration and maintenance of each web site from 1 March 2004 to 1 March 2006.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

Providing a consolidated response detailing the total number of web sites owned, operated and administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, my ministerial office and each individual agency and authority within my administration would place an undue strain on Departmental resources.

**Transport: Eastern Freeway noise levels**

**1043.** Mr CLARK to ask the Minister for Transport —

- (1) What studies have been undertaken by or on behalf of VicRoads or the Department of Infrastructure into the effects on noise levels of increased volumes of traffic on the Eastern Freeway as a result of the EastLink tollway.
- (2) What plans, if any, does VicRoads or the Government have to install noise barriers along those sections of the Eastern Freeway where noise barriers are not currently installed, and to improve existing noise barriers, having regard to current and expected future noise levels, including increased noise as a result of the EastLink tollway.

**ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

- (1) There have been no specific studies undertaken by VicRoads or the Department of Infrastructure into the effects on noise levels of increased volumes of traffic on Eastern Freeway as a result of the EastLink tollway. VicRoads will monitor noise levels along the Freeway once EastLink has opened to determine the need for any improvements to noise attenuation.
- (2) VicRoads' traffic noise reduction policy states that noise attenuation measures are considered along existing freeways when the noise level exceeds 68 dB(A) for 10 per cent of the time between the hours of 6 am and midnight. VicRoads has undertaken noise testing at a number of locations along the Freeway in response to residents' concerns. To date, none of the noise levels at other locations exceed the threshold at which improvements to existing barriers would be considered. However, VicRoads will continue to monitor noise levels once EastLink has been opened, and if noise levels exceed 68 dB(A), noise attenuation will be considered at these locations.

**Employment and youth affairs: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(m).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

I have responded to this Question in my capacity as Minister for Education Services (refer to response to Question number 1045(l)).

**Industrial relations: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(x).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Industrial Relations — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed as follows:

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way within this period.

**Victorian communities: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(an).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister for Victorian Communities — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

The answer is nil.

**Multicultural affairs: Shannon's Way Pty Ltd**

**1045(aq).** Ms ASHER to ask the Minister assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs — with reference to government payments made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd since 1 January 2005 —

- (1) What payments have been made to the company by the Minister's department or private office, or agency or statutory body under the Minister's administration.
- (2) On what dates were the payments made.
- (3) What projects were paid for with the payments.

**ANSWER:**

I am informed that:

As Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs, I am supported by the Department for Victorian Communities (DVC).

No payments have been made to Shannon's Way Pty Ltd by DVC since 1 January 2005.

As Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs, I do not have any statutory bodies under my administration.

**Transport: Hume Highway service centre**

**1069.** Mr THOMPSON to ask the Minister for Transport — with reference to the proposed development of a service centre on the Hume Highway at Wallan —

- (1) Which entity will own the site.
- (2) Which entity will develop the site.
- (3) Which entity will operate the site.
- (4) What other service centre sites on Victorian highways operate under the same business structure as that proposed at Wallan.

**ANSWER:**

As at the date the question was raised, the answer is:

- (1) VicRoads.
- (2) Hume Freeway Service Centre Consortium Pty Ltd.
- (3) Michem P/L (Subsidiary of A/A Holding P/L).
- (4) Two (2) Service Centres on the Calder Freeway at Keilor, one (1) Service Centre on the Western Highway at Deer Park.

